

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Hiroyuki KATO

Title: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

Appl. No.: Unassigned

Filing Date: January 17, 2002

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

JC879 U.S. PTO  
10/046971  
01/17/02

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of the application.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A1 relates to a printer.

Document A2 relates to a device and method for image reading and an image forming system.

Document A3 relates to an image reader, an image read system, an image read method and a computer-readable storage medium.

English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609). English language abstracts are attached.

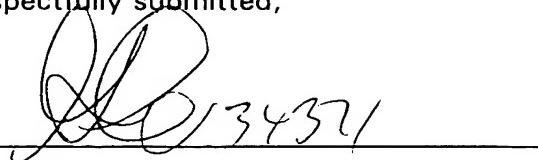
Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Atty. Dkt. No. 036741-0111

Respectfully submitted,

By



134371

Richard L. Schwaab  
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Date: January 17, 2002

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Form PTO-1449 (MODIFIED) <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 036741-0111	SERIAL NO. Unassigned		
				APPLICANT Hiroyuki KATO			
				FILING DATE January 17, 2002	GROUP ART UNIT Unassigned		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
							YES
	A1	3-217170	Sept. 24, 1991	Japan			Abstract
	A2	2001-24862	Jan. 26, 2001	Japan			Abstract
	A3	2001-119535	April 27, 2001	Japan			Abstract
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>							
<b>EXAMINER</b>				<b>DATE CONSIDERED</b>			
* EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include any copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							